Reaching Out to Black Americans about Medicaid & CHIP Renewals

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) wants to make sure people continue to have health care coverage whether that's through Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), Medicare, **HealthCare.Gov** (through the Affordable Care Act), or employersponsored coverage. This is an all hands-on-deck moment, and we need your help as a trusted voice to help share information on Medicaid and CHIP Renewals. You can use this resource to help share important messages about what steps parents, families and individuals should take to ensure they remain covered.

Why do people with Medicaid and CHIP coverage have to renew their coverage now?

For the past three years, people with Medicaid and CHIP were not required to renew their coverage because of the COVID-19 pandemic. States have now resumed the yearly process of Medicaid and CHIP eligibility renewals and are contacting people to determine if they are still eligible.

Over the next several months, everyone with Medicaid or CHIP coverage will need to renew their coverage. It should be noted that every state has a different renewal timeline. Nearly 2.2 million people predicted to lose health coverage are Black.

If an individual is no longer eligible for Medicaid or CHIP, they can transition to another form of health insurance coverage, such as finding coverage on **HealthCare.gov**, Medicare, or employer-sponsored insurance coverage.

What can YOU do to help people with Medicaid and CHIP coverage right now?

About 15 million people are predicted to lose Medicaid and CHIP coverage over the next year.

People enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP need to take action now or else they could lose their health insurance coverage. We need partners like YOU to help make sure that people enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP complete these steps:

- 1. UPDATE your contact information with your state Medicaid or CHIP agency.
- 2. **RESPOND** to the Medicaid/CHIP renewal form when it arrives to keep your coverage.
- 3. PARENTS should respond even if you don't think you're eligible your kids could still be eligible!
- 4. CONSIDER OTHER COVERAGE OPTIONS: If you are no longer eligible for Medicaid or CHIP, check if you can get coverage through your employer, through the Affordable Care Act Marketplace at HealthCare.gov, or through Medicare.

What resources are available to share with people enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP?

CMS has a variety of resources to help raise awareness about renewing Medicaid and CHIP and other coverage options if you are no longer eligible for Medicaid or CHIP, including:

- Fillable/Non-fillable Flyers
- Fillable/Non-fillable Post Cards for Kids and Families
- Partner Tip Sheet
- Health Care Options Factsheet

The full list of resources can be found on the Medicaid and CHIP Renewals Outreach and Educational Resources section of Medicaid.gov/Unwinding. Resources can be downloaded or printed and shared broadly.

What strategies can I use to spread the word in my community?

- Partner with trusted messengers and influencers, such as faith and community leaders, federally qualified health centers, schools, PTAs, libraires, community centers, local businesses, and other community-based organizations in your area to share materials, post social media messages, and host events.
- Use different communication channels to share information such as social media, radio, local news, and newspapers.
- Hand out written information and have enrollment assisters available at religious, community, cultural, and neighborhood events.

